

REMARKS:


Applicant would like to thank Examiner Rossi for the personal interview held on May 10, 2000. This supplemental amendment is being submitted in order to place the application in better condition for allowance.

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. Independent claim 1 has been amended to conform with recitations in independent claims 7, 11 and 14, and claim 14 has been amended to correct an informality.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that independent claims 1, 7, 11 and 14 are allowable over the cited references, and the dependent claims are allowable because they are dependent upon the allowable independent claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and passage to issue of claims 1-15 as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes that this Application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen G. Sullivan
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 38,329
(650) 493-4540